GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:662
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2006
ALLOTMENT OF LPG AGENCIES IN RURAL AREAS
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make some changes in the existing rules for allotment of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) agencies in rural areas ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government is aware that there is heavy demand of LPG in rural areas ;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to open LPG agencies in rural areas during 2006-07 ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) to (d) : Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) supply domestic LPG through their distribution network, and they have the freedom to set up LPG distributorships at viable locations in different parts of the country as per their commercial considerations.

However, taking into consideration the growing demand of LPG in rural areas, OMCs have taken initiative in introducing 5 kg cylinders and setting up community kitchens with a view to covering the uncovered areas. As a matter of policy, Government have also advised OMCs to concentrate their future expansion plans in semi-urban and rural areas. The details of LPG distributorships pending for commissioning by OMCs as on 1.1.2006 in various markets including rural areas of the country are available with Directors (Marketing) of OMCs.